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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s): Schwartz et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/938,274 ART UNIT:

FILING DATE: 8/23/2001 EXAMINER:

TITLE: SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

ATTORNEY
DOCKET NO.: 770P009577-US (C01)

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))

REC'D
MAR 14 2003
GROUP 3600

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

This Information Disclosure Statement asserts the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from the foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. This application has a corresponding Canadian Patent Application No. 2,225,443. The reference disclosed herein was cited by the Canadian Patent Office in a communication dated December 11, 2002.

The following information is being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants' Attorney is aware of the following patents:

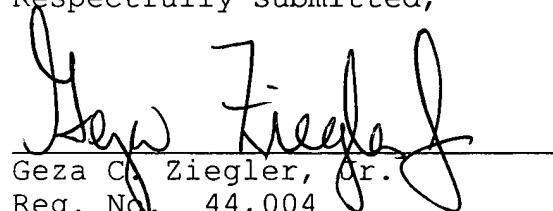
U.S. PATENT NO. 4,855,920

A copy of this patent is enclosed together with a Form PTO-1449.

The filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made regarding the claimed invention (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)) or that no other possible material information exists. In addition, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004


Date

PERMAN & GREEN, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800 Ext. 134
Customer No. 2512

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope address to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 2/24/03

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Person Making Deposit

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Page No.: 1 of 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION FORM FOR PATENT APPLICATION (FORM PTO-1449) (Substitute)			Socket No.: 770P009577-US (C01) Serial No.: 09/938,274 Applicant(s): Schwartz et al. Filing Date: 8/23/2001 Group:			
U.S. PATENTS						
Initials	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing date
	4,855,920	8/8/89	Sansone et al.	364	464.02	12/26/85
U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS						
Initials	Publication No.	Pub. Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Name		Translation? Yes/No/n/a
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Title, Author, Date, Pages, Etc., if known)						
Examiner's Signature:				Date Considered:		
Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered. Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).						

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